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BOROUGH OF NEWBURY
RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY
AND HUNGERFORD


ANNUAL
REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(including the reports of the
Public Health Inspectors)

for the year

1966



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH
BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report for 1966.

The area continued to attract residents during 1966 and at least 1000 extra people moved into the part of Berkshire with which your committee is concerned. This is taking no account of those who moved away and were replaced by newcomers. Nor does it take into reckoning the 1,855 births in the 4 districts. In all the total population rose during the year by almost 2,000 of whom over half were in Bradfield Rural District.

The statistical tables on the later pages give details of the distribution of these 1,855 births. They do not, however, show any distinction between babies born in hospital and those born at home. It is sufficient to note that the hospital confinements are very much in the majority. The reasons for this preponderance of hospital delivery are beyond the scope of this report, but the trend is a national one. An interesting point is the comparison of this pattern with the increasing amount of care at home which is noticable in so many other conditions.

Tuberculosis demonstrates this point very vividly. There is no longer the need for the prolonged spell of hospital treatment and many with this disease are never admitted as in-patients, or even if admitted this is for only a comparatively short stay.

It is not only the development of new drugs which is responsible for this. In part it is due to realizing that the response to treatment is better in a familiar environment and among familiar faces.

Coupled with a true reduction in the incidence of tuberculosis there has thus been a considerable lightening of the load of the chest hospitals.

The reasons for the reduction in the amount of tuberculosis I have discussed in a previous report and the elimination of bovine tuberculosis, B.C.G. vaccination and mass miniature radiography are too familiar to need further explanation. But I would like to mention again the general improvement in conditions of working, housing and feeding which have contributed to the decrease in the number of cases of this disease. I stress this again because matters concerned with these aspects of life are still the main concern of the health departments of the local authorities. The basic precepts of cleanliness and hygiene are still among the main stays of public health work.

It is, therefore, unfortunate, that sometimes we are unable to help people to keep up to the standards which they themselves wish to set. I am in this connection thinking of two particular matters.

The first of these is the provision of main drainage within the area. There are admittedly some parts where main drainage is not yet needed and in fact may never be needed. But some of the villages and hamlets are in urgent need of such a system of sewage disposal. But the use of the word urgent is difficult to justify on purely public health grounds. It is often impossible to quote an epidemic in the area concerned and say that this is due to the overflowing manholes or the black and stinking ditches. I think, nevertheless, that such an epidemic is a sword of Damocles and perhaps the arrival tomorrow of a typhoid carrier may radically alter the situation.

In my view main drainage should be considered as much a facet of normal living as in the provision of main water or electricity. It is unfortunate that considerations of finance so often have to complicate what in engineering terms may be a simple problem, without there being any need to quote a danger to health — or even a potential danger.

The second subject which I have in mind when mentioning the inability of people to keep up to the standards which we urge and which they set for themselves, is housing. The obvious examples here are the young couples who are living in one room. Clearly the remedy for such housing problems is far beyond the realm of a public health department but often one is approached by such couples and ones assistance sought as though with Midas touch one could produce council houses at will.

But of much greater concern and involving much greater expenditure of time are the housing problems of the elderly. The fundamental difference between these two groups of people is that the standards which they set themselves are so vastly different. It is, I think, vitally important to recognise these standards and if necessary to accept them.

Often the public health inspectors and I are asked to visit an elderly person because of the problems of dirt and disorder in the house. Often these so called problems exist not for the old people themselves but for the neighbours or relatives, who feel that the old people are suffering or in danger because the standards of tidiness and cleanliness are not those which the neighbours or relatives keep/think appropriate. To force on such people a change of standards by coercing or cajoling them into an old persons home, is, I submit, wrong.

This was brought home to me vividly during the year by an old couple living in conditions which were quite distasteful to any visitor. Repeated visits failed to impress on them the advantages of an old persons home. On my last visit the wife, while agreeing that the warmth, food and comfort in the home would be beneficial to her, told me that she knew she would die soon and wanted only to be left to do so in the house she had known for so many years. She did, in fact, die soon after, still surrounded by dirt and disorder but, I trust, happier than if her life had been slightly prolonged in an aged persons home.

For those, however, who recognise and admit to their deficiencies there are many agencies available. Home Helps, meals-on-wheels, old persons clubs, visiting schemes and so on are all part of the pattern of caring for the incapacitated at home, rather than in hospital, which I have already mentioned in another context.

It is always rather difficult to know what to include in the preamble of the Annual Report. So much of the dramatic incident is reported to the various committees that one may be repeating already obvious facts. Alternatively, one may fall into the trap of riding one's personal hobby-horse, or reiterating the strictures about cigarette smoking or the failure to fluoridate water supplies.

I would, however, like to air very briefly one of the bees in my particular bonnet which I mentioned last year, namely, the fouling of pavements by dogs. I shall not attempt to justify the inclusion of remarks on this subject as I hope I made my views on this clear in last years Annual Report.

Some of these remarks were quoted in a local paper and subsequent correspondence I found heartening in that there was evidence that I am not alone in my abhorrence of this practice.

It is this support from the public and from perhaps rather pious hope that one is helping the majority of the public that makes public health work satisfying, although lacking so often the drama associated with other branches of medicine.

Finally, may I thank the committee for their support and tolerance and my fellow officers for their help and advice during the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT HANDY

Medical Officer of Health

SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1966 – 1967

LIST OF MEMBERS

Newbury Borough

M. W. PAINE, ESQ., M.B.E.
H. K. POTTER, ESQ.
L. L. HALL, ESQ.

Bradfield R.D.

A. H. WYATT, ESQ.
A. W. MILLSON, ESQ.
MRS. M. G. PILKINGTON

Newbury R.D.

H. C. ROBBINS, ESQ.
DR. R. WARWICK BROWN
G. H. PEARCE, ESQ.

Hungerford R.D.

R. M. BALDWIN, ESQ.
D. I. BRADY, ESQ.

Berks County Council

A. ARBUTHNOTT, ESQ., M.B.E., E.D.
MAJOR H. FAIRFAX HARVEY, M.B.E., M.C.
HON. MRS. W. MACLAY

Clerk: L. SOUTHERN, ESQ., LL.B., Municipal Buildings, Newbury.
(Telephone 4000)

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY, RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFELD, NEWBURY AND HUNGERFORD

Medical Officer of Health

R. HANDY, M.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Office, Greenham House, Newbury

Telephone : Newbury 1144

Newbury Borough

G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector,
16 Market Place, Newbury.
(Telephone 4000)
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and
Sanitary Inspectors Board.
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

K. H. JAMES, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and
Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Certificate of Sanitary Science as applied to
Building and Public Works.

A. J. PENTECOST, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspectors Diploma of the
Public Health Inspectors' Education
Board.

Bradfield R.D.

P. J. WING, M.A.P.H.I., (Resigned 30/4/66)

26 Bath Road, Reading.

(Telephone 55581)

Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'
Education Board.

G. ROSSER, M.A.P.H.I.,

(Appointed Senior Public Health Inspector
1.5.66)

Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'
Education Board.

Certificate of the Royal Society of Health
as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

E. F. ALEXANDER, M.A.P.H.I.,

(Appointed 25.12.66)

Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'
Examination Board.

Newbury R.D.

C. J. COOKE, M.A.I.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector,
Pheonix House, Bartholomew Street,
Newbury. (Telephone 2400).

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

S. BURGESS, M.A.P.H.I.,

Additional Public Health Inspector
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and
and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

M. E. NORTHCOMBE, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,

Additional Public Health Inspector
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Hungerford R.D.

J. E. EDWARDS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector,
The Priory, Hungerford. (Telephone 2726)
Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as
Sanitary Inspector.

J. B. STOCKS, M.A.P.H.I., (Resigned 31/8/66)
Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'
Examination Board as Public Health
Inspector.

S. J. MCKIRGAN,
(Appointed 1.10.66 - Resigned 31.12.66)
Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'
Examination Board as Public Health
Inspector.

GENERAL STATISTICS

District	Area in Acres (Land and Inland Water)	Estimated Population	Persons per Acre
Newbury Borough	2,612	21,960	8.4
Bradfield Rural	53,008	35,760	0.7
Newbury Rural	41,660	22,220	0.5
Hungerford Rural	44,817	10,310	0.2
Joint Districts	142,097	90,250	0.6

Area	Births	Deaths	Population Change (+ or -)	Births Minus Deaths
Newbury Borough	415	265	+210	150
Bradfield R.D.	838	277	+1,160	561
Newbury R.D.	426	223	+510	203
Hungerford R.D.	176	152	+60	24
Joint Districts	1,855	917	+1,940	938

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Deaths

The following table shows the totals of births and deaths and the rates per thousand appropriate population. The corresponding figures for 1965 are in brackets.

District	Number of Live Births	Live Births Rate	Death Rate	Infant Deaths per 1,000 live Births
Newbury Borough	415 (399)	19.3(18.7)	9.8(9.3)	24.1(2.5)
Bradfield Rural	838 (841)	21.3(22.2)	9.6(8.8)	13.1(13.1)
Newbury Rural	426 (427)	18.8(19.3)	10.8(9.6)	21.1(9.4)
Hungerford Rural	176 (166)	18.5(17.7)	11.5(8.6)	11.4(6.0)
Joint Districts	1,855(1,833)	20.6(20.8)	10.2(9.0)	17.2(9.3)

	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hungerford Rural	Joint Districts
Illegitimate live births per cent total live births	7.7(7.8)	5.3(5.9)	9.4(6.1)	6.8(9.0)	6.9(6.7)

District	Still-births	Total live and still-births	Still birth rate	Neo-natal death rate
Newbury Borough	6 (5)	421 (404)	14.3(12.4)	14.5 (0)
Bradfield Rural	5(12)	843 (853)	5.9(14.1)	8.4(10.7)
Newbury Rural	12 (5)	438 (432)	27.4(11.6)	14.1 (7.0)
Hungerford Rural	5 (1)	181 (167)	27.7 (6.0)	— (0)
Joint Districts	28(23)	1,883(1,856)	14.9(12.4)	10.2 (6.5)

District	Early Neo-natal death rate	Peri-natal death rate
Newbury Borough	14.5 (0)	28.5(12.4)
Bradfield Rural	7.2(7.1)	13.1(21.1)
Newbury Rural	14.1(7.0)	41.1(18.5)
Hungerford Rural	— (0)	27.7(6.0)
Joint Districts	9.7(4.9)	24.4(17.2)

District	Total Infant Deaths	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	Legitimate Infant death rate	Illegitimate Infant death rate
Newbury District	10(1)	6 (0)	20.9 (2.7)	62.5 (0)
Bradfield Rural	11(11)	7 (9)	12.6(13.9)	22.8 (0)
Newbury Rural	9(4)	6 (3)	20.7 (7.5)	25.0(38.5)
Hungerford Rural	2(1)	0 (0)	12.2 (6.6)	— (90.9)
Joint Districts	32(17)	19(12)	16.2 (9.4)	31.2 (8.2)

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Figures for 1965 are in brackets)

DEATHS:	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Total (all areas)
Tuberculosis, respiratory	— (1)	1 (1)	— (2)	1 (—)	2 (4)
Tuberculosis, other	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Syphilitic disease	— (—)	— (—)	2 (—)	— (—)	2 (—)
Diphtheria	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Meningococcal infections	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Acute Poliomyelitis	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Measles	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)
Other infective and parasitic diseases	— (1)	2 (—)	— (—)	— (1)	2 (2)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4 (7)	5 (9)	6 (6)	4 (3)	19 (25)
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	10 (7)	19 (12)	11 (10)	5 (6)	45 (35)
Malignant neoplasm, breast	6 (5)	3 (5)	8 (3)	1 (—)	18 (13)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	2 (1)	2 (—)	1 (1)	— (1)	5 (3)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27 (27)	16 (21)	26 (18)	9 (12)	78 (78)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	— (—)	1 (1)	4 (2)	— (—)	5 (3)
Diabetes	2 (2)	4 (—)	1 (2)	— (1)	7 (5)
Vascular lesions of ner- vous-systems—stroke	46 (44)	46 (28)	35 (27)	22 (16)	149 (115)
Coronary disease, angina	42 (39)	59 (47)	27 (27)	21 (26)	149 (139)
Hypertension with heart disease	6 (6)	2 (2)	3 (2)	2 (4)	13 (14)
Other heart disease	42 (41)	26 (25)	31 (28)	19 (15)	118 (109)
Other circulatory disease	10 (8)	12 (10)	10 (10)	16 (10)	48 (38)
Influenza	8 (—)	3 (—)	1 (—)	12 (—)	24 (—)
Pneumonia	18 (15)	13 (17)	19 (9)	17 (5)	67 (46)
Bronchitis	5 (10)	9 (10)	7 (8)	6 (9)	27 (37)
Other disease of respiratory system	2 (4)	3 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	5 (6)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	— (—)	1 (—)	1 (5)	— (—)	2 (5)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3 (1)	1 (1)	— (1)	— (—)	4 (3)
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1 (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (1)
Hyperplasia of prosate	— (2)	1 (—)	2 (1)	— (—)	3 (3)
Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	— (—)	2 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	2 (—)
Congenital malformations	4 (1)	3 (4)	3 (3)	1 (1)	11 (9)
Other defined and ill- defined diseases	16 (16)	30 (30)	18 (16)	5 (5)	69 (67)
Motor vehicle accidents	7 (3)	8 (5)	1 (5)	5 (—)	21 (13)
All other accidents	2 (6)	4 (4)	5 (6)	5 (2)	16 (18)
Suicide	1 (—)	1 (4)	1 (1)	1 (—)	4 (5)
Homicide and operations of war	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
All causes	265 (247)	277 (239)	223 (193)	152 (117)	917 (796)

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified in each district during 1966.

Disease	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Newbury Rural	Total All Areas
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	6	5	2	6	19
Erysipelas	—	2	2	—	4
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	1	—	1
Dysentery	—	6	4	16	26
Acute Primary Pneumonia	—	1	5	—	6
Measles	222	102	127	263	714
Whooping Cough	4	3	—	1	8
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	2	6	1	2	11
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	—	1	2
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	1	—	—	1

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

These services are under the control of the County Health Department under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946

Newbury Health Sub-Committee is responsible for diphtheria and whooping cough prophylaxis within the Borough of Newbury.

Immunisation is performed at Child Welfare Centres and by the general practitioners, who are also in the main responsible for smallpox vaccination.

Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out by general practitioners and also at ad hoc clinics.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1966

Number of Children Immunised against Diphtheria

(Figures for 1965 in brackets)

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5-15	Total
Newbury Borough:				
Primary	298(232)	148(141)	7 (27)	453(400)
Booster	99 (-)	318(458)	333(202)	750(660)
Bradfield Rural:				
Primary	499(393)	265(310)	19 (18)	783(721)
Booster	(7)	462(714)	600(520)	1062(1241)
Newbury Rural				
Primary	267(202)	143(136)	13 (4)	423(342)
Booster	(-)	344(386)	307(259)	651(645)
Hungerford Rural:				
Primary	94 (66)	74 (66)	4 ()	172(132)
Booster	(-)	83 (53)	122 (72)	205(125)

The following table shows the total number of Primary Diphtheria Immunisation carried out in the four areas during the last ten years.

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Newbury Borough:										
Under 5	275	270	277	282	341	328	283	447	373	446
5-15	3	1	1	2	30	5	3	6	27	7
Bradfield Rural:										
Under 5	249	383	435	303	423	462	503	660	703	764
5-15	6	—	23	21	10	9	8	18	18	19
Newbury Rural:										
Under 5	200	205	300	250	315	228	265	394	338	410
5-15	1	—	—	—	5	2	2	4	4	13
Hungerford Rural:										
Under 5	94	92	87	93	153	104	96	152	132	168
5-15	2	—	—	—	2	3	2	7	—	4
Total	830	951	1123	951	1279	1141	1162	1688	1595	1831

SMALLPOX VACCINATION, 1966

(Figures for 1965 in brackets)

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5—15	Total
Newbury Borough:				
Primary:	—(299)	315 (99)	— (3)	315(401)
Re-Vaccination:	— (—)	2 (—)	140(112)	142(112)
Bradfield Rural:				
Primary:	14(444)	551(116)	— (15)	565(575)
Re-Vaccination:	— (—)	3 (—)	176(123)	179(123)
Newbury Rural:				
Primary	—(280)	319 (66)	3 (7)	322(353)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	— (—)	89 (93)	89 (93)
Hungerford Rural:				
Primary	— (75)	102 (9)	— (—)	102 (84)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	— (1)	32 (19)	32 (20)
Total	14(1098)	1292(291)	440(372)	1746(1761)

The following table shows the number of Children who during the past eight years were vaccinated when under one year of age

District	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Newbury Borough	175	230	311	75	103	211	299	—
Bradfield Rural	329	303	353	236	359	308	444	14
Newbury Rural	233	291	236	84	106	216	280	—
Hungerford Rural	95	84	108	36	49	87	75	—
Total	832	908	1008	431	617	822	1098	14

**Number of Vaccinations carried out in infants under one year,
compared with the annual number of birth.**

Areas	Year	Live Births	Vaccinations	Percentage
Newbury Borough	1963	427	103	24.1
	1964	383	211	55.1
	1965	399	299	75.0
	1966	415	0	0
Bradfield R.D.C.	1963	747	359	48.1
	1964	713	308	43.2
	1965	841	444	52.8
	1966	838	14	1.7
Newbury R.D.C.	1963	433	106	24.5
	1964	444	216	48.7
	1965	427	280	65.6
	1966	426	0	0
Hungerford R.D.C.	1963	172	49	28.5
	1964	185	87	47.0
	1965	166	75	45.2
	1966	176	0	0
Joint District	1963	1779	617	34.7
	1964	1725	822	47.7
	1965	1833	1098	60.0
	1966	1855	14	0.7

The apparently low amount of vaccination implied by this table is not at all as alarming as at first sight. The explanation is in an overall change in the Immunisation Schedule for infants. Vaccination is now carried out between the first and second birthdays.

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1966

Age Periods	Newbury Borough		Bradfield Rural		Newbury Rural		Hungerford Rural	
	Resp.	Non. Resp.	Resp.	Non. Resp.	Resp.	Non. Resp.	Resp.	Non. Resp.
0 — 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
20 — 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—
45 — 55	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
55 — 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	1	6	—	2	1	1	—

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis (respiratory and non-respiratory) which have occurred in the four areas during the last ten years.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1957	44	8	52
1958	35	3	38
1959	25	3	28
1960	24	1	25
1961	30	2	32
1962	17	1	18
1963	26	1	27
1964	23	2	25
1965	24	9	33
1966	11	2	13

NEWBURY BOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1966

STAFF

Chief Public Health Inspector

G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I.

Qualifications:—

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Food.

Additional Public Health Inspector K. H. JAMES, M.A.P.H.I.

Qualifications:—

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.

Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Food.

Certificate of Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Additional Public Health Inspector A. J. PENTECOST, M.A.P.H.I.,

(Resigned 15.7.66) M.R.S.H.

Qualifications:—

Public Health Inspectors Diploma of the Public Health Inspectors Education Board.

Shorthand-Typist

Miss E. M. Ferguson.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' DEPARTMENT

The second six months of the year saw the Department under staff by one inspector, subsequently little opportunity was available for the usual run of routine inspections of work under the respective legislations. The pressure at the abattoir being such that it was essential that one inspector was employed there full time. Fortunately, just before the end of the year it was possible to make a new appointment, and arrangements were made to fill the post early in 1967.

The continued use of the abattoir on seven days a week has placed considerable strain on the staff of the Department, and towards the end of the year the Corporation made representation to the South Berkshire Slaughterhouses Board with a view to Sunday slaughtering being dis-continued. As a result of consultations with the Board it was agreed that for a period of three months commencing the 1st March, 1967, no slaughtering should take place on Sundays, and then the position to be reviewed after this period. Besides being a burden to the Department, the seven day use of the abattoir for slaughtering does not allow proper cleaning and maintenance to take place.

HOUSING

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

Return for year 1966

A.1. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

	Houses demolished	Displaced during year Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas			
(Housing Act, 1957)			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	—	6	3
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.,	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957	7	17	7
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by M.O.H.	—	—	—
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts.	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	—	—	—
A.2. Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed.	2	—	—

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

(8)	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	6	9	6
(9)	Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
(10)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

		By Owner	By Local Authority
(11)	After informal action by local authority	22	
(12)	After formal notice under		
	(a) Public Health Acts	6	—
	(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	—	—
(13)	Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	—	

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
(14)	Retained for temporary accommodation	
	(a) Under Section 48	—
	(b) Under Section 17(2)	—
	(c) Under Section 46	—
(15)	Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 35	—

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(16)	Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year 1966.	—

HOUSING ACTS, 1957 – 1964

In the earlier part of the year a survey of the older roads in the town to ascertain the amenities available at these dwellings was commenced. The five amenities referred to were:— indoor w.c., bath, washhand basin, hot water supply and ventilated food store. Of the roads surveyed 20% of the houses were without baths, but the roads taken in the first instance were where it was expected that the amenities would be lacking.

The most striking point revealed by the survey was that the majority of the properties were now owner-occupied in complete contrast to a few years ago.

The forty-eight pre-fabricated buildings in Western End owned by the Corporation, were also inspected in detail and the Housing Committee accepted the recommendation that these properties should be retained as dwelling units for a limited period. A review of these properties will be undertaken in two years time.

FOOD SUPPLIES

Milk and Dairies

Routine sampling of milk took place as shown below, no exception can be taken to results obtained. The bulk of the supplies, heat treated at the main dairy in the town, is sold outside the Borough.

Bacteriological examination of milk:—

Samples procured for	Type of Milk	Total samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Remarks
1 Methylene Blue Test	T.T. Past	24 30	21 30	3 —	— —
2 Phosphatase Test	Past	30	30	—	—

Eight series of bottles taken from the washer at the only pasteurising plant in the district were submitted to examination and the Bacteriologist's report showed that they were satisfactory.

Samples of Cream:

Eight samples of pasteurised cream were taken from two dairies in the town, and the results obtained were satisfactory.

Manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream:

Sixty-four samples of ice-cream were examined and were placed in the following grades:-

Grade I	..	..	..	..	59 (92%)
Grade II	..	..	..	..	5 (8%)
Grade III	..	..	..	..	— —
Grade IV	..	..	..	..	— —
Void	..	..	..	..	— —

Classification of Food Premises within the jurisdiction of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960

Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	21
General Stores	..	..	..	..	..	11
Hotels & other Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	45
Cooked Meats	..	..	..	..	..	1
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	41
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	14
Bakers	..	..	..	..	..	9
Catering	..	..	..	..	..	15
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	10
Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Dairies	..	..	..	..	..	2
Supermarkets	..	..	..	..	..	7
Ice-cream Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	..	1
						<hr/> 180 <hr/>

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

180 businesses as classified are subject to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960. Visits were paid to these premises during the year, and minor breaches to the Regulations were brought to the notice of the occupiers. In one instance the Public Health Committee recommended the Council to take proceedings against one trader who was not complying with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Inspection of meat and other foodstuffs in shops, etc.:

WEIGHTS OF CANNED AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Canned Meat	.. .. .	2 cwt. 38 lbs.
Fish	.. .. .	28 lbs.
Canned food other than meat	.. .. .	6 cwt. 57 lbs.
Other food	.. .. .	3 cwt. 61 lbs.
Total weight condemned	.. .. .	12 cwt. 72 lbs.

Meat Inspection:

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL

Classification							Tons	cwt.	lbs.
(1)	At slaughterhouse	..	..	..	..	..	32	1	0
(2)	On retailers' premises:-								
	(a) Home killed	..	..	..	..	..	—	5	0
	(b) Imported	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
(3)	Total Weight	..	..	..	..	..	32	6	0

The throughput at the Board Abattoir continued to increase during the year and during the peak months of August-November the abattoir was obtaining a weekly throughput 50% above the figure for which it was designed.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number Slaughtered	3,049	880	248	13,141	34,510	51,828
Number Inspected	3,049	880	248	13,141	34,510	51,828
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	23	11	89	133	256
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	912	390	10	1,766	7,023	10,101
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	29.9	46.9	8.4	14.1	20.7	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	337	337
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.9	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	3	—	—	—	8
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	5	3	—	—	—	8
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, SHOPS, ETC.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	69	52	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	151	267	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	3	4	—	—
TOTAL	223	323	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
		Remedied (3)	Notified To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	5	4	—	—	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	3	—	1	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	Nil
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	Nil
TOTAL	10	8	—	1	Nil

MISCELLANEOUS

Drainage

The extension of the sewer to new housing estates has meant that a number of properties on the Turnpike Road have now been connected to the sewer.

PEST INFESTATION CONTROL AND DISINFECTION

Rodent Control:

The number of agricultural, horticultural and business properties which were under contract to the Joint Rodent Control Committee at the end of 1966 were:—

Newbury Borough	6
Newbury Rural District	40
Hungerford Rural District . . .	42
a total of	<u>88</u>

Wasps' Nests:

During 1966 wasps' nests on domestic and business premises were destroyed by the rodent operators during the year as follows:—

Newbury Borough	69
Newbury Rural District	30
Hungerford Rural District . . .	19

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Return of work by Rodent Operators

TYPE OF PROPERTY					
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)	Total
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	22	7,078	6	1,653	8,759
2. Number of properties inspected by Local Authority during 1966 as a result of,	(a) 3	222	3	27	255
(a) notification, or	(b) 13	94	5	7	119
(b) otherwise					
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats	MAJOR MINOR 15	— 290	— 7	— 22	— 334
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be seriously infested by mice	1	22	1	11	35
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	16	312	8	33	369
6. Number of notices served under Section 4					
(1) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
8. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of 'block' control scheme carried out = 9					

OFFICES, SHOPS, AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Work under this heading included in the main routine inspections of premises and little exception can be taken to the conditions found at the majority of premises. Liaison with the Borough Surveyors Department over plans of new premises and alterations has continued throughout the year and a number of possible infringements of the Regulations have been avoided by alterations being possible at the drawing-board stage.

TABLE A – Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises (1)	No. of premises registered during the year (2)	Total No. of registered premises at end of year (3)	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	9	122	7
Retail Shops	6	229	54
Wholesale shops, warehouses	3	10	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	29	29
Fuel storage depots	2	4	2
TOTALS	22	394	94

**TABLE B – Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors
to Registered Premises**
298

**TABLE C – Analysis of persons employed in
Registered Premises by Workplace**

Class of Workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	1,211
Retail Shops	1,563
Wholesale departments, warehouses	131
Catering establishments open to public	221
Canteens	14
Fuel storage depots	20
Total	3,160
Total males	1,236
females	1,924

TABLE D – Exemptions

Class of Premises	Space (Sec.5(2))	Temperature (Sec.6)	Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.9)	Washing Facilities (sec.10)
Offices				
Retail Shops				
Wholesale shops, warehouses	≡	≡	≡	≡
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens				
Fuel Storage depots				

TABLE E – Prosecutions

Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed in the year	Nil
Number of complaints (or summary applications) made under Section 22	Nil
Number of interim orders granted	Nil

BRADFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

WATER SUPPLIES

Mains Water Supply

Most parishes within the district with the exception of Englefield and Sulham continued to enjoy an adequate supply of mains water from the following boreholes:—

Pangbourne, Wood Farm, Streatley, Bradfield, Mortimer, Grazeley.

There are, however, a comparatively small number of isolated individual cottages which still have to obtain water from private sources.

The mains water supply is supplemented from boreholes outside the district and all water was chlorinated before distribution.

Both bacteriological and chemical samples were taken regularly from the sources, reservoirs and distribution system during the year by the Thames Valley Water Board.

Two samples of raw water taken from Pangbourne and Streatley Bores showed slight contamination, but the routine chlorination treatment applied proved effective in dealing with this.

All other samples indicated that the supplies were of high bacteriological quality.

No samples of raw water have been taken by this Department but a total of 12 water samples taken at points throughout the District on final distribution showed that 10 of the samples were of high bacteriological quality. The supply giving the 2 unsatisfactory samples was investigated and it was found that intermittent contamination was occurring in an uncovered mains water supply tank sited in the roof of a farm building, this private supply tank serving the farm and 7 cottages.

Subsequent samples proved satisfactory after the tank had been fitted with a proper cover.

The mains water in the district is not known to be plumbo-solvent and no tests for lead were carried out during the year.

The natural fluoride content of the sources varies from 1.4 ppm (Grazeley). 1.2 ppm (Mortimer) to less than 0.1 ppm (Pangbourne, Bradfield and Streatley).

The following table shows the estimated position in respect of main and other water supplies to houses throughout the district:—

Parish	Area in Acres	Houses	Estimated Population 31.12.66	Properties Connected to mains water		Properties not on mains water
				Houses	Estimated Pop.	
Aldermaston	3438	517	2332	495	2232	22
Ashampstead	2082	132	384	132	384	0
Basildon	3139	402	1190	396	1189	6
Beech Hill	1136	96	333	94	326	2
Beenham	2068	256	796	233	724	23
Bradfield	4359	438	1628	413	1535	25
Bucklebury	6030	771	2438	661	2090	110
Burghfield	4310	975	3221	904	2988	71
Englefield	1437	70	225	4	12	66
Frilsham	1078	104	365	100	351	4
Grazeley	519	8	25	7	22	1
Padworth	1184	166	492	128	379	38
Pangbourne	1940	754	2550	706	2388	48
Purley	1159	716	1984	698	1934	18
Stanford Dingley	965	49	143	34	99	15
Stratfield Mortimer	3031	902	2995	890	2955	12
Streatley	3655	324	1026	306	969	18
Sulham	723	36	110	0	0	36
Sulhamstead	1993	502	1596	467	1485	35
Sulhamstead Bannister	556	30	116	30	116	0
Theale	1619	725	2237	695	2144	30
Tidmarsh	785	95	301	72	228	23
Tilehurst	1548	2540	8650	2539	8647	1
Ufton	2189	78	217	63	175	15
Wokefield	665	47	114	47	0	0
Yattendon	1400	102	292	93	266	9
TOTALS	53008	10835	35760	10207	33638	628

A small number of dwellings are still supplied by standpipes but accurate figures are not available.

New mains laid during 1966 were as follows:—

Drury Lane, Mortimer	520 yards
Pingewood Area, Burghfield	2014 yards
Spring Lane, Cold Ash	207 yards
Adjacent Bucklebury Post Office	120 yards
Off Hollybush Lane, Burghfield	261 yards
Adjacent Garden House, Purley	308 yards
Lameston Estate, Purley	809 yards

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

A total of 102 water samples were taken for bacteriological examination during the year from 22 private supplies, 5 of which serve food premises, and 2 Estate Supplies.

Three of the private supplies proved unsatisfactory and appropriate action was taken.

In the case of one polluted supply which serves 4 houses, arrangements have been made to extend the mains water supply from Theale Village to enable these and 8 other properties to connect to mains water.

This work is scheduled to be completed in the early part of 1967 and in the meantime, water is being carted daily to these 4 properties by the Local Authority.

Some trouble was again experienced during the year with the chlorination equipment of one of the Estate Supplies. A water engineering firm was called in and the plant is now operating correctly.

Samples from the other Estate Supply were generally satisfactory.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

A. Details of progress on the various drainage schemes is as follows:-

Scheme	Properties Served	Remarks
Purley		
New sewer line with alterations to Pangbourne sewage disposal works.	1372	Work completed
Beenham		
Extension to sewer with alterations to sewage disposal plant.	59	Work completed
Ufton Nervet		
Wises Firs. New sewer	80	Work completed
Englefield Village		
New sewer	96	Work in progress.
Beech Hill	91	This scheme has had to be deferred following the refusal of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to grant loan consent.
Stanford Dingley/Tutts Clump	120	At the end of the year, details of the 3 schemes were being completed by the Consulting Engineers for submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval in principle.
Upper Basildon		
Lower Padworth/Aldermaston Wharf	112	
Stratfield Mortimer		
Summerlug Area. Extension to sewer	30 New Dwellings	Details of this scheme were submitted to the Ministry for approval at the end of 1966.

B. Other schemes under consideration were:-

Tilehurst, Hall Road,
Extension to sewer with pumping station to serve 14 existing properties and 71 proposed dwellings.

C. Areas where main drainage is required:-

In addition to those schemes mentioned above, of which the Upper Basildon Scheme is perhaps the most urgent, because of the number of nuisances arising from septic tanks, the following areas in the district require main drainage, existing drainage arrangements being unsatisfactory.

Parish	Area	Approx. No. of Dwellings.	Remarks
Bucklebury	Hillfoot	9	Dense clay subsoil. Constant difficulties with drainage of Council Houses. Would require separate system.
Frilsham	Village	28	Extension to existing Council Estate Sewerage Works would be necessary.
Aldermaston	Red Lane, Reading Road. Pinelands Caravan Site and possibly properties adjoining the Congregational Chapel situated in Hampshire	26 42 caravans 20 (Hants.)	No complaints from Reading Road, Difficulties at Caravan Site.
Streatley	Wantage Road	60	Septic tank irrigation difficulties. Could be pumped to existing sewers. Possible future backland development. Await Borough sewer proposals in vicinity.
Tilehurst	Little Heath Road and Westwood Road	15 North Side 26 South Side 41	
Burghfield	Cunning Man area Pingewood Trash Green area	42 including Pingewood Road beyond Kennet Cottages 17 12 + 4 (Bennets Lane)	
Bucklebury	Longrove	17	Could be connected to sewer via McManus Estate.

Parish	Area	Approx. No. of Dwellings.	Remarks
Bucklebury	The Alley	34	Possible arrangements with Newbury R.D.C.
	The Slade	28	Clay subsoil. Stream polluted. Small Gardens. Would require separate system.
	Cold Ash Road, The Ridge	41	Possible arrangements with Newbury R.D.C.
	Turners Green	18	Would require separate system.
	The Village	23	High water table No mains
Tidmarsh with Sulham	Villages	110	water supply in Sulham. Drainage would probably involve increasing the capacity of the existing sewer in Pangbourne from St. James Church to the ejector station near Whitchurch Bridge.
Purley	Oxford Road	30	Open development. Large gardens. Could either be pumped to Purley sewer or Borough Sewer.
			High water table.
Theale	Wigmore Lane	22	
Yattendon	Southern part of Village	20	
Theale	Mill Lane, Calcot	12	Clay subsoil. Could be pumped or gravitated to Calcot sewer.

CARAVANS

Permanent Sites:—

Garstons Park (Caravans) Ltd., Tilehurst	222 Caravans
Frank Panter (Sites) Ltd., Ravenswing Caravan Site, Aldermaston	150 Caravans
Pinelands Caravan Site, Aldermaston	42 Caravans
1, Nursery Gardens, Purley Mr. J. M. Wakefield (Formerly Garden House Nurseries)	15 Caravans
Burghfield Rectory Rev. Nicholson	11 Caravans
Railway Inn, Station Road, Theale Mr. C. G. Wilsher	8 Caravans
Old Mill Farm, Beenham Mr. F. C. Arlott	4 Caravans
Glebe Meadow, Theale Rev. E. L. King	5 Caravans
Colyton Way, Purley Park River Estate Mrs. W. M. Burr ridge	3 Caravans
River Gardens, Purley Park River Estate Mr. S. Brown	2 Caravans
Beenham Grange Isotopes Developments Ltd.,	2 Caravans

In addition there were 69 caravans on temporary licence on individual sites within the district.

Other caravans in the district were covered by the exemption clauses contained in the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, i.e. caravans used as a supplement to sleeping accommodation from a dwelling, building contractors and casual farm workers.

During the year problems arose yet again over itinerants who on innumerable occasions camped on Commons and roadside verges within the District. The vast time spent both in effecting the removal of these people and on the considerable cleaning up operations which were necessary afterwards, resulted in items of far more importance having to be deferred until the current gypsy problem had been dealt with.

After spending much time and effort on the removal of these itinerants it was exasperating to find, as on several occasions, that a week after removal, they had returned to exactly the same spot, and the whole process had to be started yet again.

It is to be hoped that effective legislation will be made to enable Local Authorities to take more prompt action to remove these people, for there is no doubt that the longer they are encamped on land, the more fouled and rubbish

strewn it becomes.

It is also to be hoped that sites can be set up to cater for this type of person, as it is no satisfaction to know that the removal of itinerants from within the District has merely transferred the problem to a neighbouring area.

Proposed Council Site, Purley

Owing to the continued restriction on Local Government expenditure, no further work has been carried out on the proposed Local Authority Site at Purley since the original filling and levelling of the site took place in 1964.

It is intended that this site when developed, will accommodate 86 caravans each standing having its own water closet, water point and store shed, with electricity laid to each plot.

Showers, baths and laundry facilities are to be provided in a communal block.

During the year, a privately owned site in Purley Village closed down, and had the Council Caravan Site been completed as anticipated, it was the intention to transfer the caravans from this private site when it closed onto the Council site, together with those vans at present on unsuitable sites in the District.

With the closure of this privately owned site, the land was urgently needed for building purposes and of a total 20 vans, 16 required an alternative site to move on to as soon as possible.

The Ministry was informed of this situation and consent was sought to develop a section of the Local Authority Site at Purley, to accommodate these 16 vans.

Ministry approval was obtained at the end of the year and it is hoped that site works will commence on this modified scheme during the early part of 1967.

'Travellers' Site, Mortimer

Works to the site were completed during the early part of 1966 and the site was opened at the end of April.

In addition to those 16 families originally allocated places on the site, 3 extra families were later allowed on, these being related to the families already in residence.

Since its opening, the site had, in general, operated satisfactorily, although certain problems arose during the year with misuse of the communal ablution block and a certain amount of damage was caused to fittings.

To overcome the problem of keeping the shower blocks in a clean

condition, arrangements were made to employ a resident from the site to clean the blocks regularly. This arrangement has not been entirely successful in practice but there does not appear to be a satisfactory solution to this problem.

A certain amount of damage to these blocks occurred during the year, but as a proportion of this damage had already been caused by unknown persons trying to 'gate-crash' the site when it first opened, it was decided that the damage would be repaired, but that any further damage would be paid for by the tenants by additions to their rent.

I feel that much of the 'teething troubles' experienced with this site stems directly from the fact that there is no warden in charge.

It had been the Council's original intention that a site warden should be appointed, and well before the site was opened, the 'travellers' were asked to nominate a warden or leader from their own people.

Owing to the rivalry existing between the various families no leader chosen was acceptable to the occupiers of the site as a whole.

It may well be that the appointment of a Warden from outside the site will be the only answer to this problem.

Apart from these difficulties which are bound to occur initially in sites of this nature, I feel that on the whole it has proved to be very successful and is the only satisfactory solution to the gypsy problem with which many Authorities are faced at the present time.

It is pleasing to note that at the end of the year, one family had been re-housed by the Council and four other families had made application for re-housing.

This is a very encouraging start to the Council's hope of the eventual re-housing of all the families on this site.

Refuse Collection

During the early part of 1966 the existing kerbside collection of bins was replaced by collection from inside the gate.

This improved scheme is operated where possible throughout the district, but a small number of collections still have to be made at the kerbside for those properties having no front gardens.

As in previous years stocks of paper sacks were issued to all premises unable to be reached by the refuse vehicles (farms and isolated properties) and collections were made at suitable points as and when necessary.

In addition, paper sacks were issued to those premises where collections became due on Bank Holidays and over the Christmas period.

Coinciding with the start of the 'inside gate' collection, a bonus payment scheme was introduced for the refuse collection staff, which combined the basic wage with a bonus in lieu of overtime.

This scheme has proved to be most successful and has resulted in a considerable speeding up of collection times.

Since the introduction of this bonus scheme, no labour difficulties have been experienced, unlike previous years, when shortage of refuse staff interfered with the smooth running of the collection service.

12,200 tons of refuse was collected and disposed of during the year at the Council's two refuse tips at Bradfield and Burghfield.

The Bradfield tip which had been in use for seven years, was closed at the end of 1966 and with the remaining tip at Burghfield having only approximately 12 months tipping space left, it is now a matter of urgency that further suitable tipping sites be found as soon as possible. Investigations are being made in this connection.

The removal and disposal of derelict cars throughout the district continued to be a problem during the early part of the year.

It was becoming obvious that the amount of collections involved together with the disposal at the Council's tips was proving both time consuming and costly, and that the burying of these vehicles in the tip was taking up valuable tipping space. Towards the latter part of 1966 arrangements were made with a contractor to collect and crush all derelict cars deposited within the district.

A total of 90 vehicles were disposed of during the year.

Equipment:	2	40/50 cu. yd. Bedford Eagle	Crushload
	1	28 cu. yd. Dennis Paxit	
	1	24 cu. yd. Dennis Paxit (Reserve)	
	1	24 cu. yd. Karrier	
	1	Drott Crawler Tractor)
	1	6 ton Bedford Tipper Truck	) Tip Control
Employees:	1	Foreman/Tip man	
	4	Drivers	
	11	Loaders	

Septic Tank Emptying Service

This service which is carried out by the employment, through the Council, of a private contractor, continued in general to operate satisfactorily during the year.

Again, shortage of labour led to certain difficulties in getting tanks emptied quickly when an emergency arose with full or overflowing drainage units. This problem has been aggravated by the fact that many owners of tanks do not have them periodically emptied or attended to in any way until

they overflow and give rise to a nuisance.

It is then very difficult to get tanks in this condition emptied immediately.

During the year, 722 tanks were emptied which involved 1,025 loads.

HOUSING TABLE

Number of dwellings built

A.	by Local Authority	87
B.	by private enterprise	495

Inspection of dwellings during year

1.	A. Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects:	165
	B. Number of inspections for this purpose:	206

Remedy of defects during year

4.	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action:	3
5.	Number of dwellings in which defects were remedied by informal action:	28
6.	Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action:	NIL
7.	Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition or Closing Orders were made:	6
8.	Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made:	NIL
9.	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders:	4
10.	Number of dwellinghouses included in Clearance Orders made by the Local Authority:	NIL
11.	Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister:	NIL
12.	Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders:	NIL

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The following grants were authorised during the year:-

Type of Grant	Owner-Occupied Premises	Tenanted Premises	Total
Standard	26	3	29
Discretionary	27	16	43
Totals	53	19	72

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a summary of the Annual Report made to the Ministry of Labour.

Class of Premises	No. of Premises registered during year	Total No. of Premises registered at end of year	No. of premises receiving a general inspection during the year	Number of persons employed
Offices	6	48	10	352
Retail Shops	20	85	53	329
Wholesale Departments, and Ware-houses	1	2	—	45
Catering Establishments open to the public and Canteens	4	13	5	68
Fuel Storage Depots	1	3	2	11
TOTALS	32	151	70	805
Total Number of Males Employed			334	
Total Number of Females Employed			471	

During the year 145 visits were made to 70 different premises in the District. It had been hoped that by the end of the year every premises registered would have been inspected, but owing to the staffing situation of the Department, this was not possible.

It is hoped that the remaining 46 premises not yet inspected will be visited in the early part of 1967.

The number of defects found on inspection of premises during the year are summarised as follows:—

Insufficient First Aid Equipment	24
No hot water	8
Lack of thermometer	17
Inadequate washing facilities	3
Insufficient lighting	8
Insufficient heating	4
Lack of ventilation to sanitary accommodation	8
Inadequate guarding of machinery	3
Unsatisfactory floors, passages and stairs	5
Inadequate cleanliness	3
Total	83

The owners of these premises were notified of the contraventions either verbally or by letter and in most cases remedial action was carried out immediately. It is expected that the remainder of the premises will be brought up to standard during the early part of 1967.

PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS

Number of premises licensed	63
Number of installations inspected during the year	29
Number of visits made to these installations	38

In the case of twenty premises inspected, minor infringements of the Licence Conditions were found. The Licencees were notified of these contraventions either verbally or by letter and asked to rectify them.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER

Number of premises registered	4
Number of inspections	10

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

Licences in respect of three boarding kennels in the district were renewed at the beginning of the year.

Each premises was inspected once and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS

A. MILK AND DAIRIES

Routine samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination as follows:—

	No. of Samples	Tested and found satisfactory		Failed Test Meth Blue
		Methylene Blue	Phosphatase	
Raw TT	8	6	—	2
TT Past	5	4	5	1

In the case of the 3 unsatisfactory results the matter was followed up in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, the premises concerned being Dairy Farms. Subsequent samples taken after remedial measures were carried out, proved satisfactory.

Cream

During the year 27 samples of cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, and although these were not of a high quality bacteriologically, no action was possible owing to the absence of a legal standard. Again in this instance responsibility for production is vested in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Registration under the Milk & Dairies Regulations

During the year 20 persons were registered as distributors of milk under the above regulations.

The total number of distributors in the district as at the end of the year was 31.

B. FOOD PREMISES

Food Premises in the district are as follows:-

Cafes and Restaurants	14
Licensed Premises and Hotels	37
Works Canteens	13
Clubs	5
School Kitchens and Hostels	8
Butchers	13
Bakers and Confectioners	3
Bakehouses	5
Fishmongers	2
Grocers	71
Greengrocers	6
Confectioners	13
Milk Retailers	7
Others	3
Total	<u>200</u>

During the year 265 visits were made to the above premises and in general, the standard of hygiene was good. The occupiers of 34 premises were requested either verbally or by letter to carry out various works in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations. No formal action was found necessary.

C. REGISTRATION UNDER SECTION 16 FOOD & DRUGS ACTS 1955

Number of premises that registered during the year for:-

Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	10
Manufacture or preparation of sausages or preserved food	1

Total Number of Premises Registered in District

A. Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	79
B. Manufacture or preparation of sausages or preserved food	31

D. VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF FOODS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Canned Food	42 lb.
Other Food	293 lb.
Total	<u>335 lb.</u>

In addition the contents of a deep freeze cabinet was surrendered following a breakdown of the unit.

E. POULTRY INSPECTION

Number of poultry processing premises within the district:	1
Number of visits to those premises:	7
Total number of birds processed during the year:	Approx. 105,000
Types of birds processed:	
Hens	90%
Roasting Chicken	8%
Turkeys	2%

Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption:	Approx. 2%
Weight of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption:	7,880 lbs.

Comments on Poultry Processing and Inspection

The single processing station in the district is a small well equipped premises of recent construction. The owner of these premises has been in the poultry trade for many years and carries out his own system of inspection in accordance with Circular 22/61 but contacts the Local Authority in the case of any doubtful carcasses. The bulk of the carcasses rejected were for oedema, parasitic conditions or emaciation.

F. MEAT INSPECTION AT THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE

Throughput Sheep & Lambs	Calves	Number Inspected	Condemnations	
			No. of Whole Carcases condemned	Part of carcase or organ condemned
23	NIL	23	NIL	3

RODENT CONTROL

Number of complaints received:	117
Number of different domestic premises visited:	2581
Total number of treatments to domestic premises:	239
Number of business premises visited:	387
Total number of treatments to business premises:	174
Number of Local Authority premises visited:	42
Total number of treatments to Local Authority premises:	39
Number of agricultural premises visited:	307
Total number of treatments to agricultural premises:	289

Number of Contracts: 221

A.	Private dwellings	86
B.	Business premises	74
C.	Agricultural premises	61

Value of Contracts – £1,687

Number of employees 3

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	1	NIL	NIL
2. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	80	43	2	NIL
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	83	44	2	NIL

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Notified		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	5	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	12	5	—	2	—

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork: Number of outworkers in list required by Section 133(1)(c)
 Making of wearing apparel: 4

HUNGERFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Summary of No. of Visits Made during the Year

No. of visits under Housing Acts	436
No. of visits under Public Health Acts	571
No. of visits under Petroleum Regulations	116
No. of visits made to Food Premises	469
No. of visits under Factories Acts	56
No. of visits under Rodent Control	141

Water Supplies

There are few dwellings now, which depend on well water for their domestic supplies, although, in many cases the wells are kept in a good state of repair and the water is of a good bacteriological standard.

Routine samples are taken periodically from both public and estate supplies, and from private or well supplies when requests are made, or following a complaint where a sample of well water proves to be unsatisfactory, appropriate action is taken to either clear the well or if necessary, the storage system of the dwelling.

Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Samples taken from Public Supplies	5	—
Samples taken from Private Supplies	7	5
Samples taken from Swimming Pools	2	—

Swimming Pools

The Hungerford Swimming Bath was visited on numerous occasions during the year and samples of the water were taken. There appeared to be no cause for complaint, but it is questionable whether the irregular sampling, which is now carried out, is of any real value. The essential safe-guard is the regular check, by the operator, of the chlorine content of the water, as the content depends on so many varying factors such as, weather, bathing load, etc.

It must be remembered that the bathers have a particular responsibility in using the public pools, this being the use of foot baths before entering and after leaving the pool for the changing rooms.

Visits were made also to the private pool at Denford Park School, Hungerford. The other private pool at Elcot Park Hotel was not in use during the year.

SEWERAGE

Hungerford Scheme

During 1966 the work on the alterations and improvements to the scheme continued and much headway has been made. It is hoped that the completion of the contract is not too far away. When the work is completed it should eliminate all the complaints of flooded drains and questionable effluent.

Kintbury and Lambourn Schemes

These two schemes still continue to operate without too much difficulty.

Septic Tank Scheme

The Council commenced its scheme for emptying cesspool/Septic Tank systems on 1st April and hoped it would help ratepayers who found it necessary to have the systems emptied frequently. The Council scheme gives the ratepayers a reduced price plus a grant of £1 once during a financial year. However, it appeared that the need for the scheme was not as urgent as it was thought because comparatively few have taken advantage of the scheme.

The Council allowed ratepayers to take advantage of the competitive price although the dwellings are on the line of the main sewer, and could be connected to it. In these cases no grant was paid.

The table below shows work carried out and subsidies paid from 1st April to 31st December, 1966.

Parish	Dwellings for which service was requested			
	Dwellings on which subsidy was paid	Subsidy £	Dwellings requiring second service	Dwellings on which no subsidy can be paid
Combe and West				
Woodhay	—	—	—	—
East Garston	—	—	—	—
East and West				
Shefford				
(incl. Shefford				
Woodlands	2	2	—	—
Hungerford	8	8	—	—
Inkpen	9	9	—	—
Kintbury	8	8	—	—
Lambourn (incl.				
Eastbury, Wood-				
land St. Mary,				
Upper Lambourn				
and Lambourn				
Woodlands	11	11	2	2
TOTAL	38	38	2	2

HOUSING

Number of dwellings built

A.	by local authority	82
B.	by private enterprise	66

Remedy of defects during year

1.	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action:	25
2.	Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made:	NIL
3.	Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made:	25
4.	Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made:	10
5.	Number of dwellings demolished following formal or informal action:	2
6.	Number of dwellinghouses included in Clearance Orders made by the local authority:	NIL
7.	Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister:	NIL
8.	Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders:	NIL

Inspection of Council Houses

During the year visits were made to Council owned dwellings, with the intention of providing an essential record of the general condition of the premises with regard to repairs and cleanliness.

Only 7 of the 399 dwellings visited were found to be in need of a further visit in an attempt to improve the standard of cleanliness.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The number of applications for Improvement Grants continues to be small, although the proportion of applications for standard grants has increased.

The following grants were authorised during the year:—

	Owner/Occupied Premises	Tenanted Premises	Total
Standard	6	0	6
Discretionary	6	2	8
Improvement Grants which were paid during the year:-			
Standard	4	2	6
Discretionary	12	2	14

CARAVANS

It appears that the need for caravan homes is now decreasing and the numbers on the site at Lambourn have been run down to enable the improvements to be carried out. The works have started and it is hoped that they will be completed in the near future.

There have been few new applications to station caravans on individual sites throughout the district and it is felt that a very strict control should be maintained on the licensing of new sites, to prevent them becoming established permanently.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Milk and Dairies

Routine sampling of milk for bacteriological examination continued as in previous years, and only one sample proved unsatisfactory.

	No. of Samples	Tested and found satisfactory			Unsatis- factory
		Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test	Turbidity Test	
T.T. Past (C.I.)	10	9	9	N/A	1
T.T.Past	—	—	—	N/A	—
Pasteurised	14	14	14	N/A	—
Sterilised	1	N/A	N/A	1	—
Raw T.T. (C.I.)	1	1	N/A	N/A	—
T.T. Past. Hom.	1	1	1	N/A	—

Sale of Food

No. of Food Premises in the district

Butchers	7
Bakers	7
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	8
Grocers and Confectioners	35
Caterers (Licensed and Industrial)	37
Fish Friers	2
Dairies	3
Milk Retailers	9

Unfit Food

There are now very few requests for condemnation certificates in respect of unsound foods. It is questionable whether in fact, there is little or no unsound food, or that arrangements are now much better for the credit and return of the food. In some stores the practice of selling dented or mis-shapen tinned food is carried on, and the goods are displayed at reduced prices. It is felt that in these cases, the public should be told to use the dented tinned food as soon as possible, to avoid any chance of the food becoming affected.

Ice-cream

Sampling of Ice-cream for Bacteriological examination continued during the year, and it was noted that the number of registered premises selling Ice-cream had decreased.

No. of premises registered	35	
No. of inspections	80	
No. of Samples	Provisional Grade I	II
37	35	2

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The "trend" towards more bulk of refuse continued throughout the year and it has become obvious, when the 18 cu.yds. Dual-Tip machine is replaced in the near future, a larger compression type vehicle must be seriously considered. It is felt that the disposal point has a vital bearing on the type and size of machine used in the district.

When a large compression type machine is used for collection, it may be necessary to travel to the tip on only one occasion during the day and this would save time and fuel if the tip is some distance from collection point.

At present the Council have only one disposal site in use, this being at Avington, Hungerford.

Action has been taken during the year to locate and obtain new sites for use in the future, but at present no definite sites are available and considerable concern is felt over this position. There is still a dislike for the thought of refuse disposal no matter what method is used. Further action is being taken to obtain new sites, even though they may be outside the Council's boundaries, and it must be pointed out that new sites need not be pits but could include broken ground which would be brought to a suitable level.

If these sites should not become available then serious thought must be given to alternative methods of disposal which may be more amenable to the persons who have control of suitable sites. Such methods could include incineration of the bulky refuse, and disposal of the remains.

At the present site an effort is made to separate all bulky metal refuse from other refuse and this together with any unwanted motor vehicles is collected by a scrap metal merchant. Although this arrangement is in existence and is working reasonably well at present, some doubt is felt over future collection.

Derelict Motor Vehicles

This problem has not increased to the extent it was feared some while ago. When a derelict vehicle is reported every effort is made to have it removed directly by the scrap merchant and not to the Council's refuse tip and there await collection.

Where the Council's staff and vehicles are used to remove a derelict car, a fee of £2 is charged to the owner irrespective of actual cost.

LITTER

There has been no alteration in the Council's policy of collection of any rubbish dumped in and on the countryside. The fact that few complaints have been received during the year of any dumping of unwanted articles, would tend to show that the ratepayers of the district are generally aware of the Council's policy and make full use of the weekly collections, to dispose of worn out or unwanted household articles, as well as domestic refuse.

This extra service must, without doubt, cost something but it is thought it is less expensive in the long run than when the rubbish has to be collected from lay-bys, ditches etc. on special collections.

RODENT CONTROL

The joint scheme continues to operate with satisfaction and no opportunity is missed to encourage the occupiers of business premises to take an annual contract. When premises are under contract, it does help considerably in the planning of work for the operators, and of course, more premises are then regularly visited and treated if necessary.

The following table shows the work carried out by the Rodent Control staff.

Properties other than sewers		TYPE OF PROPERTY	
		Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1.	Number of properties in district	3836	367
2.	a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	151	14
	b) Number infested by (i) Rats	141	14
	(ii) Mice	7	—
3.	a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	31	80
	b) Number infested by (i) Rats	17	74
	(ii) Mice	3	—

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

During 1966 two licences were issued under the above Act, both being in respect of cats. Inspections were carried out and the premises found to be in a satisfactory condition. At present there is no establishment in the district for dogs.

PETROLEUM

The filling stations, garages and private installations were visited regularly during 1966. The number of premises licenced is the same as last year. Although two private installations ceased to be used, two new ones were licenced. The number of Filling Stations remains the same.

15 Filling Stations and Garages
55 Private Installations

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	10	—	—
2. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	44	46	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	50	56	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
		Remedied (3)	Notified		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Visits have been carried out to premises under the above Act as set out below. No accident has been reported.

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises registered during year	Total No. of Premises registered at end of year	No. of premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	—	13	7
Retail Shops	—	30	30
Wholesale Shops and warehouses	—	NIL	NIL
Catering	—	2	1
Fuel	—	1	1
TOTAL	—	46	39

It is felt that insufficient time has been given to these inspections, although a considerable number of the shops would have been visited for other purposes, such as Food Hygiene Regulations. It would appear that many of the premises which it was thought may need to be registered, are excluded because of the part-time workers — e.g. training establishments with part-time clerical workers, village shops with a female part-time assistants. However, it is obvious that some premises which should be registered will come to light in due course.

NEWBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

WATER SUPPLIES

Table showing the position in the various parishes

Parish	Population	Number of Houses	Houses without mains water
Boxford	531	166	19
Brimpton and Wasing	614	178	9
Chieveley	1977	517	29
Cold Ash	1918	507	4
Enborne	575	159	4
Greenham	947	249	4
H. Marshall	191	71	14
Leckhampstead	403	129	—
Midgham	376	109	11
Shaw	2131	618	9
Speen	1646	461	58
Thatcham	9208	2591	50
Welford	668	204	24
Winterbourne	196	71	25
Woolhampton	839	202	2
	22220	6232	262

Of the 262 houses without mains water, 143 rely on a well supply, and the others are supplied by deep boreholes or private main supply.

FOOD SUPPLIES

The following table shows the number of food shops in the area in addition to which there are forty three hotels and public houses.

Grocers	41
Bakers & Confectioners includes bakeries	11
Butchers	11
Greengrocers	5
Sugar Confectioners	8
Fishmongers	1
Fried Fish Shop	1

Seven butchers are registered for the manufacture of sausages, and 60 premises are licenced for the sale of ice-cream. The slaughterhouse continued to operate at Pound Lane, Thatcham, and as in previous years 100 per cent inspection of carcasses was carried out. The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the amount of meat condemned.

The figures in brackets refer to 1965.

	No. of animals slaughtered	No. of whole carcasses condemned	Estimated weight of meat condemned (in pounds)
Pigs	18,788 (26,786)	14 (25)	13,636 (16,688)
Sheep	852 (755)	2 (1)	114 (98)
Calves	19 (41)	1 (Nil)	32 (Nil)
	19,659 (27,582)	17 (26)	13,782 (16,786)

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Work was carried out on the preparation of sewerage schemes for Upper Woolhampton, Enborne Row, Chieveley, Curridge/Hermitage (partly in conjunction with Wantage R.D.C.), and Lower Way Thatcham.

The Weston Village Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme was commenced, and a surface water scheme carried out in the Green Lane/Lower Way area of Thatcham.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

At present a back door bin collection system operates in the Thatcham area, while the rest of the area is covered by a kerbside collection. A weekly collection operates throughout the District. A paper bag collection scheme is in operation to 350 houses on the Chapel Street Housing Site at Thatcham.

During the year the Council decided to plan for a paper bag collection system to operate throughout the District. It is hoped as a first stage to introduce a paper bag system to 1200 houses commencing in January, 1968.

Disposal of refuse continues to be carried out jointly with Newbury Borough at their refuse tip in Lower Way, Thatcham.

HOUSING

Number of dwellings built:

A.	By Local Authority	82
B.	By private persons	80

Inspection of dwellings during year:

1.	A. Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects	172
	B. Number of inspections for this purpose	203
2.	Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost:	3
3.	Number of dwellings found to be unfit but capable of repair at reasonable cost	53

Remedy of defects during year:

4.	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action:	38
5.	Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action:	Nil
6.	Number of dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made:	Nil

7.	Number of dwellings demolished in pursuant of demolition orders:	2
8.	Number of dwellings included in Clearance Areas	Nil
9.	Number of dwellings demolished in pursuant of Clearance Orders	Nil
	Grants for improvement of private houses:	
	Discretionary grants	14
	Standard grants	24

CARAVANS

The following table shows the number of Licensed sites

Site	No. Licenced
1	100
2	69
3	30
4	18

In addition to the above there are 55 caravans on small sites containing less than six vans. During the year 29 families were rehoused in Council houses from caravans.

RODENT CONTROL

Treatment is carried out under the joint scheme with Newbury Borough and Hungerford R.D.C. and the following table is a copy of the annual return sent to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

		TYPE OR PROPERTY	
Properties other than sewers		Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1.	Number of properties in district	6,972	373
2.	a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	228	12
	b) Number infested by (i) Rats	210	12
	(ii) Mice	14	
3.	a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	61	96
	b) Number infested by (i) Rats	54	82
	(ii) Mice	4	4
Sewers			
4.	Sewers infested by rats during the year	None	

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	2	NIL	NIL
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	68	16	NIL	NIL
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	74	18	NIL	NIL

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”)

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found		Notified		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
		Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	2	—	—	—	—

PART VIII of the Act

Outwork: Number of outworkers in list required by Section 133(1)(c)

Making of wearing apparel: 2

Pentalith Ltd., Newbury 2492